COMMERCIAL OVERPRINTS ON G.B. STAMPS   by R. Tarrant.

I have recently become increasingly interested in commercial overprints on G.B. stamps and have so far put together a collection of some 300 different.

Judging from the Society's auction results these stamps seen popular but I am surprised at the lack of available information about then. All I have been able to find so far has been an article by Floyd A. Walker in the November 1977 Issue of "The American Philatelist" and a listing of some QE2 overprints by A. F. Brown in "the Cinderella philatelist" (Oct. 1985, July 1966 and July 1967).

I thought membership of The G.B. Overprints Society might be useful but was advised by their Membership Secretary that the Society's interests do not extend to commercial overprints.

This lack of information has led me to make some observations about my own collection in the hope that members may comment on how they collect overprints and share any sources of information they have.

I have tried to obtain an example of each overprint on face-different stamps and have distinguished between different spacings and types of print but not between different watermarks and stamp shades.

I have collected some overprinted stamps on receipts, which I presume to be the rough equivalent of collecting postage stamps on cover.

I understand that use of overprinted stamps for postal purposes was contrary to regulations but I have a cover with two stamps, one perfinned and the other overprinted by the Corporation of Glasgow. How common are postally used covers with overprinted stamps ?

My collection of single stamps is currently housed in a stockbook divided into local authorities, electricity companies, gas companies, water authorities, insurance companies and "private" companies.

I hope these notes produce some response. I would be delighted to read members comments in the Bulletin or to hear direct from anyone interested.

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